



MILDRED HELMS ELEMENTARY IB WORLD SCHOOL

561 Clearwater Largo Road Largo, FL 33770
(727) 588-3569 www.pcsb.org/mildred-es

Vision: 100% Student Success



December 2025

Principal's Points of Pride

Dear Mildred Helms Families,

We hope you enjoyed the Thanksgiving break with family and friends. We had a terrific November hosting our Fall Book Fair, Celebration of Veterans and the Great American Teach In. We also showcased our school through our IB Magnet Discovery Night, engaging and encouraging families to join our IB school community next year!

Throughout December, we will be sharing our Season of Giving, supporting our vision of community involvement, international mindedness and 100% Student Success. Our Winter Concert will be held on Tuesday, December 9th in the Dolphin café featuring our Dolphin Concert and our amazing first grade. On Friday, December 12th, our fourth and fifth grade Dolphin Chorus will be performing on the outdoor stage at Largo Central Park. We hope you can join us for a fun-filled evening under the lights in the park.

Since we are approaching the midpoint of the school year, it is time for progress monitoring in ELA and math. Students will be assessed in reading and math to determine their progress on the state standards from the beginning of the year. Teachers will be sharing the dates on which they will be completing the STAR or FAST testing in the classrooms. Please ensure your child is well rested and at school on time so they can test with their class.

Just a reminder, the end of the second grading period is Friday, December 19th. There will be no school for students December 22nd - January 2nd. School resumes on Monday, January 5th. Happy Holidays!

Respectfully yours,
Mrs. Brennan

December Dates

12/6 Experience Pinellas
Clearwater High School
10:00AM - 12:00PM

12/9 Winter Concerts
6:00 PM 1st Grade
6:45 PM 4th & 5th Grade Chorus

12/12 Concert in the Park
Largo Central Park 6:30PM

12/19 End of Quarter 2

12/22 - 1/2 Winter Break - No School

Mrs. Schneider's Snapshot

Dear MHES families,

We hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday! As we move into December, it's time for our students to shine during the second round of FAST testing. They've been working hard, learning new material, and setting goals—and now they get to show what they know! You can help support their success by reviewing the testing information sent home, making sure they get plenty of rest the night before, and planning a healthy breakfast on testing mornings.

Quarter 2 is almost complete, and that means exciting rewards are on the way! The Dolphin Depot (our PBIS store) will open on December 16th, giving students the chance to use their IB Bucks to purchase fun items and special events. We can't wait for them to see all the great choices available! We'll also be celebrating classroom success with Game Time and popsicles for classes that earn 100 Dolphin Tickets this quarter. Be sure to ask your child how they're helping their class reach this goal—it's a great way to encourage teamwork and positive behavior!

If you're interested in volunteering for one of the celebrations or donating items to the Dolphin Depot, please contact Mrs. Schneider at schneiderk@pcsb.org or call (727) 588-3569. Your support makes these events possible and helps us celebrate our students' hard work!

Appreciatively,

Mrs. Schneider



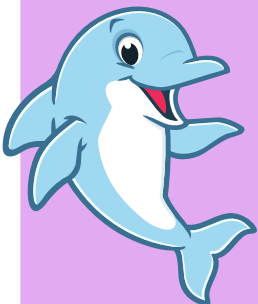
MISSION:

Mildred Helms is committed to developing knowledgeable, inquiring, and caring lifelong learners within an intellectually challenging, transdisciplinary program emphasizing international mindedness.



Community Connections

**Thanks for
supporting our
school!**



**Misty Veverka
Lotz of Blessings
Raising Cane's
Chicken Fingers
Town of Belleair**

**Adopt a Class Sponsors:
Flanagan's Porch and Windows
Davis Family
Largo Body Shop**

Community Partners

**Special thanks to the
Town of Belleair and
Mayor Mike Wilkinson
for donating baskets
for families in need.**



**Thank you to all the
volunteers who
participated in our
Great American Teach In!**

**THANK
YOU!**



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Welcome!

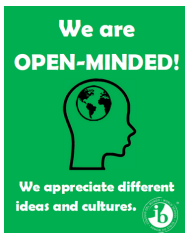


My name is Jenn Kelly and I am the IB PYP Coordinator at Mildred Helms Elementary. I am looking forward to a great 2025 – 2026 school year! Check out this page of our monthly newsletter for information about IB and what it looks like in our IB World School!

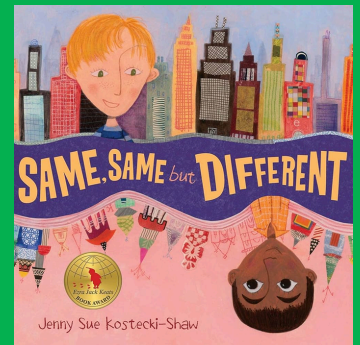
IB Learner Profile of the Month

Open-Minded

We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.



Learner Profile Book of the Month



Click on the book cover to listen to the book.

Inquirer of the Month of November

PK3 / VPK: Malik, Oshane

Kindergarten: Selena, Chad, Teo, Arianna

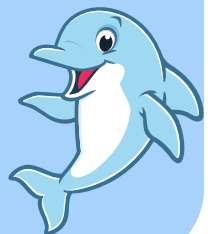
1st Grade: Wyatt, Ilian, Daelynn, John

2nd Grade: Za'Kari, Akarsh, Da'Quan, Izabella

3rd Grade: Wyatt, Myles, Ryan, Jethro

4th Grade: Emily, Madison, Ezekiel, Oliver

5th Grade: Lincoln, Layla, Simaima, Arlen





Counselor's Connections



The holidays can be exciting but also overwhelming for some children. Please know I'm here to support students who may need help navigating big feelings during this time.

Tips for Families: Supporting Children During the Holidays

- Keep routines as consistent as possible – kids thrive on predictability.
- Talk about feelings – excitement, sadness, or frustration are all normal.
- Encourage giving and helping – bake for a neighbor, write thank-you notes, or donate a toy.
- Make time for rest and connection – simple family time is the best gift.

I am wishing you all a wonderful Holiday Break and hoping you get to spend quality time with your family.

With much gratitude,
Mrs. Stager
School Counselor



Ms. Coleman's Book Nook

In December Media classes, we will focus on the second Digital Responsibility lesson for each grade in K-5. Kindergarten students will be learning about the importance of media balance, and enjoying device-free time with friends and family and active hobbies. First graders will be learning the importance of keeping personal information private, as well as recognizing that every site they visit or app they use, they are leaving a digital footprint that others can track. Second graders are learning what it means to be a super digital citizen and the importance of being respectful and responsible online.

Third, fourth, and fifth graders will learn about the powerful impact our words have on others, both in-person and online. We will learn how to identify cyberbullying and learn some strategies we can use when we witness cyberbullying online. We are all learning how to use technology respectfully and responsibly at the same time we are learning how to use technology effectively in our modern world.

Coach's Playbook

We have had a great 4 weeks of mileage. The athletes are working hard and 90% of them have earned their lanyard and 1st foot (25 laps/5 miles). The top 18 runners have already achieved their 2nd foot (50 laps/10 miles).

Here are some of the standouts:

Isaiah M (4th grade) 14.2 miles

Kameron M (4th grade) 12.4 miles

Arlen S (5th grade) 12.2 miles

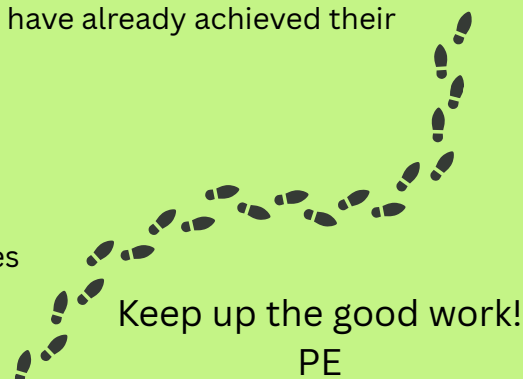
Honorable Mention: Johnnie C (KG) 10.6 miles

Top Classes week #4-Ms. Brindle 145.8 miles & Ms. Harmon 145.6 miles

Top Grade week #4- 5th 539 miles

Please have a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving!!!!

PE





Mrs. Clemens' Musical Notes

Mark your calendars! Upcoming Music Performances include:

Tues. Dec. 9th

Two Holiday Concerts!

6:00pm

1st Grade Holiday
Program

All first graders are
welcome to
participate!

6:45pm

4th and 5th
Grade Chorus
Holiday Concert!
Come celebrate
with us!

Fri. Dec. 12th

6:30pm - 4th & 5th

Grade Holiday
Concert at Largo
Park

(outside stage)
Always an exciting
time to take our
singing to the park!

Señora Carlson's Cafe Hola

Dear Families,

During our current Unit of Inquiry: Sharing the Planet, students are learning how people around the world use and share natural resources responsibly, and how culture is expressed through the products we create and value.

In Spanish class, we are exploring how products of culture—such as food, art, music, and traditional crafts—reflect the ways people connect to their environment and to one another. Students are discovering that what we eat, wear, and celebrate can teach us about the values, geography, and traditions of Spanish-speaking countries.

We encourage you to continue these conversations at home by asking your child what they have learned about how people care for the planet and express their culture in different ways. You might explore music, art, or foods from Spanish-speaking countries together!

Thank you for your continued support as our students learn to appreciate and care for our world and its diverse cultures.

¡Gracias por su apoyo! Thank you for your support!

— Señora Carlson

Words we are learning:

<u>English</u>	-	<u>Spanish</u>
Food		Comida
Water		Agua
Nature		Naturaleza
Music		Música
Art		Arte
Community		Comunidad
Flag		Bandera
Tradition		Tradición
Clothing		Ropa
Earth		Tierra



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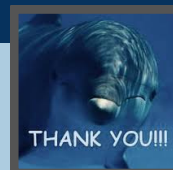
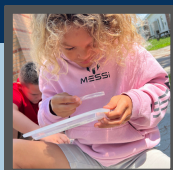
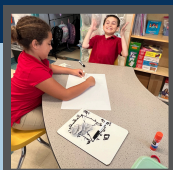
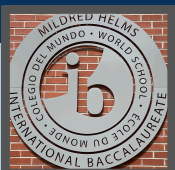
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MHES CALENDAR



December 2025



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

.	1 PM2 Testing Begins	2	3	4	5 Spirit Shirt Friday! 	6 Experience Pinellas Clearwater High School 10AM	
7	8	9 Winter Concert 6PM 1 st Grade 6:45PM Chorus	10 5th Grade Enterprise Village Field Trip	11	12 Spirit Shirt Friday! Concert in the Park! 6:30PM Largo Central Park	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19 End of 2nd Grading Period Spirit Shirt Friday! 	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	 Winter Break! No School for Students 12/22/25 - 1/2/26 School resumes 1/5/2026					.
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Visit us at <https://www.pcsb.org/mildred-es> for the most up to date information!



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Check out our December Newsletter!



Read the newsletter
with your student.
Answer a few
questions on the back
of this page and return
to your child's teacher
to earn an IB Buck!

1. What is the title of the Learner Profile Book of the Month?
2. When is the Concert in Largo Central Park?
3. What day does school begin in 2026?

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